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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
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BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

June 1988

The Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

Civilian Labor Force Participation by Women Continues to Increase

During the past ten years women's attachment to the Maine labor force has grown significantly, reaching an all-time high of 56.0 percent in 1987. This means that well over half of Maine women 16 years of age or older were either employed or actively seeking work in 1987, in contrast to 47.3 percent in 1977. Male labor force participation rates for the same time period remained relatively unchanged, with a rate of 74.9 percent in 1977 and 75.6 percent in 1987. Rising female labor force participation rates and the resulting narrowing of the gap between male and female rates is the result of several trends including:

- Increasing number of dual wage earner families.
- Rising level of formal education and training in the female population.
- Growing number of single-parent families.
- Smaller number of children born with a resulting greater attachment of women to the labor force.

Although the female participation rate rose significantly in Maine, and was equal to the U.S. rate of 56.0 percent in 1987, it remained below the New England average. Between 1977 and 1987 the New England regional rate rose from 51.8 percent to 60.0 percent. New England women historically have been more likely to be active in the labor force than their national counterparts. In 1977 the participation rate of New England women was 3.4 percentage points higher than the national rate. This gap widened slightly during the next ten years to 4.0 percentage points in 1987.

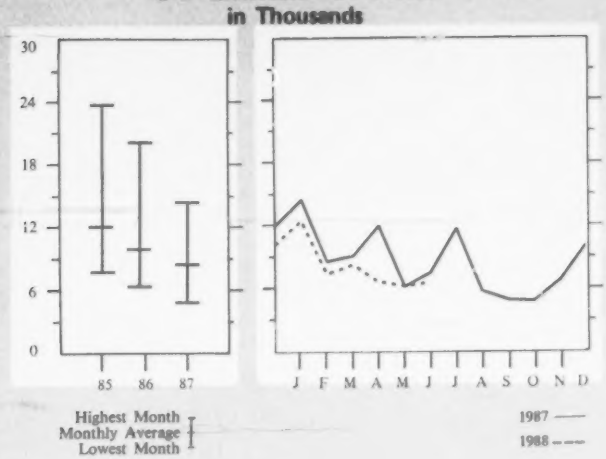
Maine is currently experiencing very tight labor markets, particularly in southern and coastal areas, with the statewide June unemployment rate reaching a 32-year low for the month. As the demand for labor continues to expand and spread throughout the state, much of the increase in the supply of labor is expected to come from females. With Maine recording the lowest female labor force participation rate of all the New England states and anticipated continuation of trends affecting female labor force participation during the 1970s and 1980s, there is reason to expect that female participation in Maine's labor force will continue to increase.

For more information concerning female labor force participation, please contact the Maine Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment Security, Division of Economic Analysis and Research, 20 Union Street, Augusta, ME 04330, telephone (207) 289-2271.

See related table on page 2

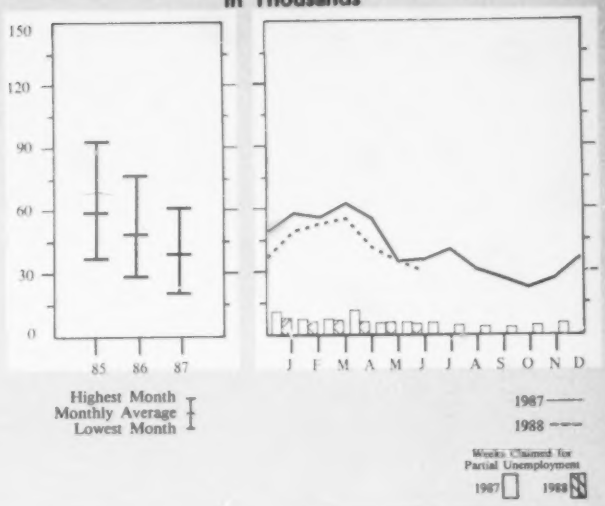
UI Initial Claims

in Thousands



UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed

in Thousands



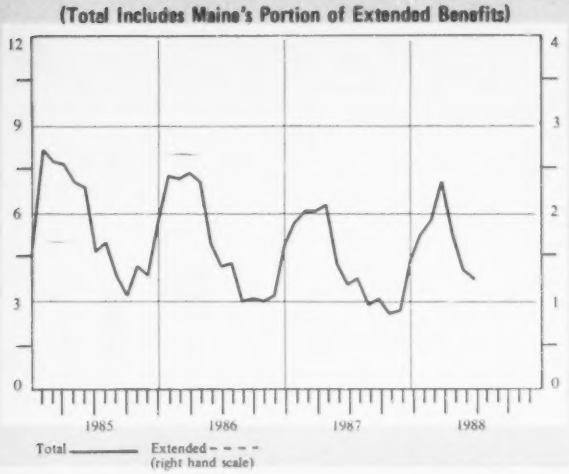
Women's Civilian Labor Force Participation Rates
Maine, New England, and the United States, 1977-1987

YEAR	MAINE	NEW ENGLAND	UNITED STATES
1987	56.0%	60.0%	56.0%
1986	54.2	59.4	55.3
1985	53.4	58.4	54.5
1984	54.5	57.6	53.6
1983	53.3	55.9	52.9
1982	50.4	55.7	52.6
1981	50.0	55.3	52.1
1980	50.3	54.6	51.5
1979	49.6	54.3	50.9
1978	47.1	52.6	50.0
1977	47.3	51.8	48.4

Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments
In Millions

(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions

(End of Month)

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work
in Thousands

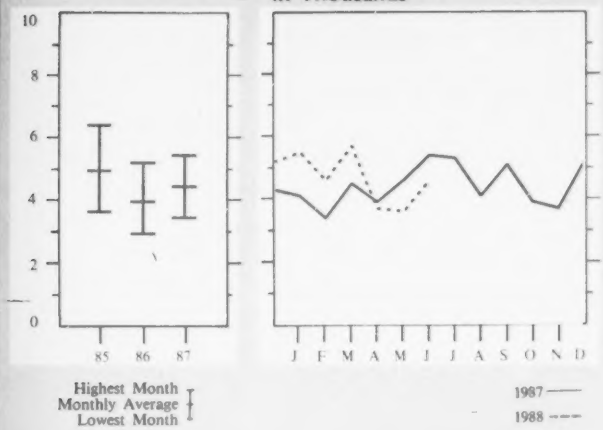
ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND MSA This Month	PORTLAND MSA Last Month	PORTLAND MSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 1/	534.7	520.6	511.3	128.7	126.0	124.1	41.3	40.6	39.6
Total Manufacturing	108.6	105.8	104.1	16.4	16.5	15.4	10.5	10.6	10.3
Durable Goods	51.0	49.3	46.9	8.1	8.3	7.1	2.9	2.9	2.8
Lumber and Wood Products	13.1	11.9	13.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.3
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.5	3.5	3.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	4.8	4.7	4.3	2.2	2.3	2.1	0.2	0.2	0.3
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	11.9	11.7	10.2	3.4	3.3	3.1	0.8	0.8	0.7
Transportation Equipment 2/	12.6	12.5	10.7	(d)	(d)	(d)	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other Durable Goods 3/	5.1	5.0	4.6	1.2	1.4	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5
Nondurable Goods	57.6	56.5	57.2	8.3	8.2	8.3	7.6	7.7	7.5
Food and Kindred Products	7.5	7.1	7.7	2.0	2.0	2.1	0.9	0.9	0.9
Textile Mill Products	6.6	6.7	7.0	(d)	(d)	(d)	1.2	1.2	1.2
Apparel and Other Textile Products	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Paper and Allied Products	17.7	17.3	17.1	(d)	(d)	(d)	0.6	0.6	0.5
Printing and Publishing	5.5	5.4	5.4	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.7	0.7	0.6
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	3.9	3.8	3.6	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.9	1.8	1.8
Leather and Leather Products	12.0	11.9	12.1	1.4	1.5	1.4	2.2	2.3	2.3
Footwear (except Rubber)	10.1	9.9	10.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.8	1.8	1.9
Other Nondurable Goods 4/	1.3	1.2	1.2	2.9	2.7	2.8	*	0.1	0.1
Total Nonmanufacturing	426.1	414.8	407.2	112.3	109.5	108.7	30.8	30.0	29.3
Construction and Mining	36.7	34.7	33.8	10.0	9.4	9.6	2.4	2.4	2.3
Building Construction	13.1	12.4	12.4	2.8	2.7	2.7	0.7	0.5	0.5
Special Trades Contractor	16.7	16.2	15.4	5.3	5.1	4.7	1.6	1.8	1.7
Transportation and Public Utilities	21.5	20.9	21.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	1.5	1.4	1.5
Wholesale Trade	25.1	24.7	24.2	10.1	9.9	9.6	2.1	2.0	2.0
Retail Trade	110.1	106.2	104.1	27.3	26.0	27.0	8.0	7.8	7.7
Food Stores	20.6	19.9	19.4	4.6	4.4	4.3	1.4	1.5	1.4
Eating and Drinking Places	37.4	34.8	34.3	8.6	7.8	8.4	2.5	2.5	2.3
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	25.6	25.3	25.2	12.8	12.8	12.3	2.5	2.3	2.2
Banking	9.3	9.0	8.8	3.2	3.1	2.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	9.9	10.0	10.1	6.1	6.0	5.5	0.7	0.7	0.6
Services	116.9	112.3	110.4	31.2	30.3	29.3	10.4	10.2	9.8
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	10.8	8.5	10.5	2.6	2.5	2.1	0.4	0.4	0.4
Business Services	12.4	12.0	12.0	5.3	5.2	4.8	1.0	1.0	1.0
Health Services	43.0	42.3	40.6	10.3	10.1	9.9	4.3	4.1	4.2
Federal Government	18.6	18.5	18.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.3	0.3	0.3
State and Local Government 5/	71.6	72.2	70.0	12.9	13.1	12.9	3.6	3.6	3.5
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Transportation equipment and instruments are combined in the Lewiston series. 3/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 38, 39; Portland - 25, 32, 37, 38, 39; Lewiston - 25, 32, 39. 4/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 28, 29; Portland - 22, 26, 28, 29; Lewiston - 28, 29. 5/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 50. (d) Nondisclosure item.

THESE DATA ARE DEVELOPED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

New Applications For Work

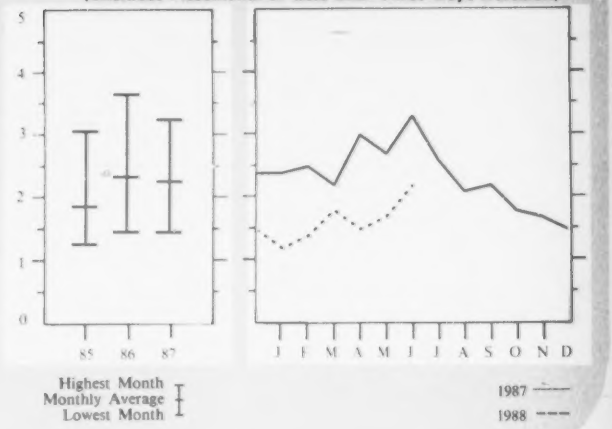
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1987	1986	1985
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	$363.01	$369.74	$364.04	40.2	40.9	41.6	$9.03	$9.04	$8.69	$8.77	$8.65	$8.40
Durable Goods	343.17	342.79	350.06	41.0	41.4	42.9	8.37	8.28	8.16	8.32	8.52	8.46
Lumber and Wood Products	328.78	321.12	329.50	39.9	40.7	43.7	8.24	7.89	7.54	7.82	7.74	8.06
Primary and Fabricated Metals	392.03	387.18	364.11	43.9	44.3	41.9	8.93	8.74	8.69	8.94	8.58	8.25
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	432.31	418.17	412.22	50.8	47.9	45.6	8.51	8.73	9.04	9.20	9.62	9.11
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	334.84	332.37	332.88	39.3	39.9	41.3	8.52	8.33	8.06	8.03	7.94	7.57
Other Durable Goods	329.64	338.64	378.86	40.2	40.8	43.6	8.20	8.30	8.69	8.60	9.41	9.50
Nondurable Goods	379.64	393.09	371.39	39.3	40.4	40.5	9.66	9.73	9.17	9.18	8.76	8.31
Food and Kindred Products	279.37	286.81	265.58	37.2	37.2	37.3	7.51	7.71	7.12	7.16	7.00	6.63
Textile Mill Products	292.30	301.38	302.21	39.5	40.4	41.8	7.40	7.46	7.23	7.35	7.04	6.64
Apparel and Other Textile Products	215.34	221.76	217.56	34.4	35.2	37.0	6.26	6.30	5.88	5.92	5.73	5.83
Paper and Allied Products	615.47	646.24	589.48	43.1	45.8	41.5	14.28	14.11	13.87	13.43	12.70	12.25
Leather and Leather Products	244.49	248.50	247.02	37.1	37.2	38.9	6.59	6.68	6.35	6.34	6.05	5.93
Other Nondurable Goods	329.72	338.45	349.80	38.7	39.4	42.4	8.52	8.59	8.25	8.28	8.00	7.51
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	386.04	394.15	357.37	41.2	41.1	39.1	9.37	9.59	9.14	9.13	9.17	8.90
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing	318.00	330.76	306.71	39.9	41.5	41.9	7.97	7.97	7.32	7.40	7.19	6.78

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month 1/	Last Month 1/	Year Ago 2/
Labor Force	269.3	260.3	267.5
Unemployed	11.4	10.1	13.8
(Percent)	4.2%	3.9%	5.2%
Resident Employed	257.9	250.2	253.7

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec.
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items (CPI-U)	118.0	117.5	113.5	115.4

Percent Change for Past Month	+0.4%
Percent Change from Last December	+2.3%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+4.0%

1/ Preliminary estimates 2/ Revised

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE-Statewide	607.1	587.8	603.8	584.9	565.3	578.9	22.2	22.5	24.9	3.7	3.8	4.1
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor MSA	41,800	40,900	42,300	40,600	39,800	40,700	1,200	1,100	1,600	2.9	2.7	3.8
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	42,100	41,000	42,400	40,200	39,400	40,100	1,900	1,600	2,300	4.5	3.9	5.4
Portland MSA	126,500	123,700	126,600	123,900	121,100	123,800	2,600	2,600	2,800	2.1	2.1	2.2
Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA 3/	n/a	134,200	134,700	n/a	132,200	131,600	n/a	2,000	3,100	n/a	1.5	2.3
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	34,380	33,420	34,610	33,250	32,380	33,080	1,130	1,040	1,530	3.3	3.1	4.4
Bath-Brunswick	29,560	28,940	28,850	28,890	28,210	27,530	670	730	1,320	2.3	2.5	4.6
Belfast	12,060	11,530	12,180	11,000	10,560	11,580	1,060	970	600	8.8	8.4	4.9
Biddeford	28,710	27,830	28,150	28,070	27,160	27,220	640	670	930	2.2	2.4	3.3
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	16,760	14,690	16,080	16,410	14,370	15,640	350	320	440	2.1	2.2	2.7
Calais-Eastport	14,830	14,680	14,380	13,510	12,980	12,970	1,320	1,700	1,410	8.9	11.6	9.8
Caribou-Presque Isle	21,910	21,550	22,440	20,240	20,070	20,080	1,670	1,480	2,360	7.6	6.9	10.5
Central Penobscot	2,840	2,750	2,740	2,740	2,640	2,590	100	110	150	3.5	4.0	5.5
Dover-Foxcroft	7,010	6,740	7,060	6,660	6,470	6,700	350	270	360	5.0	4.0	5.1
Ellsworth	25,020	23,050	24,890	24,250	21,800	24,030	770	1,250	860	3.1	5.4	3.5
Farmington	12,210	12,170	12,270	11,570	11,500	11,680	640	670	590	5.2	5.5	4.8
Fort Kent-Allagash	4,700	4,760	5,150	4,330	4,080	4,550	370	680	600	7.9	14.3	11.7
Greenville	1,330	1,190	1,350	1,290	1,100	1,310	40	90	40	3.0	7.6	3.0
Houlton	6,310	6,220	6,470	6,000	5,800	6,100	310	420	370	4.9	6.8	5.7
Kittery-York 3/	30,460	29,670	30,310	30,170	29,400	29,970	290	270	340	1.0	0.9	1.1
Lincoln-Howland	5,710	5,510	5,730	5,340	5,210	5,420	370	300	310	6.5	5.4	5.4
Livermore Falls	4,400	4,220	4,730	4,100	4,000	4,500	300	220	230	6.8	5.2	4.9
Madawaska-Van Buren	3,960	3,940	3,900	3,680	3,530	3,580	280	410	320	7.1	10.4	8.2
Millinocket-East Millinocket	4,080	3,890	4,260	3,770	3,710	4,060	310	180	200	7.6	4.6	4.7
Norway-Paris	13,070	12,300	12,610	12,600	11,910	12,050	470	390	560	3.6	3.2	4.4
Patten-Island Falls	2,500	2,450	2,440	2,360	2,180	2,310	140	270	130	5.6	11.0	5.3
Rockland	19,400	18,600	19,140	18,930	17,880	18,580	470	720	560	2.4	3.9	2.9
Rumford	8,560	8,290	8,620	7,890	7,660	8,100	670	630	520	7.8	7.6	6.0
Sanford	16,910	16,470	16,120	16,380	15,960	15,630	530	510	490	3.1	3.1	3.0
Sebago Lakes Region	12,120	11,360	12,220	11,750	11,030	11,880	370	330	340	3.1	2.9	2.8
Skowhegan	23,470	22,210	23,610	22,080	20,920	22,330	1,390	1,290	1,280	5.9	5.8	5.4
Southwest Penobscot	10,510	10,220	10,740	10,020	9,760	10,180	490	460	560	4.7	4.5	5.2
Waterville	24,020	23,520	21,520	23,020	22,720	20,680	1,000	800	840	4.2	3.4	3.9
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,723.8	1,776.6	n/a	1,681.6	1,718.6	n/a	42.2	58.0	n/a	2.4	3.3
Massachusetts	3,217.0	3,106.0	3,147.8	3,106.0	3,022.0	3,050.5	110.0	84.0	97.3	3.4	2.7	3.1
New Hampshire	n/a	598.9	600.4	n/a	586.5	584.6	n/a	12.4	15.8	n/a	2.1	2.6
Rhode Island	527.4	524.7	525.3	511.1	510.3	505.1	16.3	14.4	20.2	3.1	2.7	3.8
Vermont	299.9	295.1	300.1	292.3	287.2	290.2	7.6	7.9	9.9	2.5	2.7	3.3
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	6,836.3	6,954.0	n/a	6,652.9	6,727.9	n/a	183.4	226.1	n/a	2.7	3.3
UNITED STATES 4/	123,028	120,775	121,153	116,209	114,222	113,498	6,819	6,553	7,655	5.5	5.4	6.3

MSA-Metropolitan Statistical Area

Note

n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

Footnotes

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.

2/ Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.

3/ Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

4/ National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

THESE DATA ARE DEVELOPED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued-Week Claimants	4,693	6,311	6,082	530	649	654	464	515	712
Insured Unemployment Rate *	0.9	1.3	1.2	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.2	1.4	1.9

* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.

Maine Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

In Thousands

ITEM	1988 2nd Quarter	Previous Quarter	Year Ago	Net Change to Current Quarter From Previous Quarter	Net Change to Current Quarter From Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment	522.8	505.9	499.0	+16.9	+23.8
Total Manufacturing	106.4	106.0	102.5	+0.4	+3.9
Durable Goods	49.6	49.7	45.9	-0.1	+3.7
Lumber and Wood Products	12.1	13.5	12.7	-1.4	-0.6
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.5	3.5	3.5	0.0	0.0
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	4.7	4.6	4.2	+0.1	+0.5
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	11.8	11.5	10.2	+0.3	+1.6
Transportation Equipment	12.5	11.9	10.8	+0.6	+1.7
Other Durable Goods	5.0	4.7	4.5	+0.3	+0.5
Nondurable Goods	56.8	56.3	56.6	+0.5	+0.2
Food and Kindred Products	7.3	7.3	7.5	0.0	-0.2
Textile Mill Products	6.7	6.8	6.8	-0.1	-0.1
Apparel and Other Textile Products	3.1	3.1	3.2	0.0	-0.1
Paper and Allied Products	17.3	17.0	17.0	+0.3	+0.3
Printing and Publishing	5.5	5.4	5.3	+0.1	+0.2
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	3.8	3.7	3.6	+0.1	+0.2
Leather and Leather Products	11.9	12.0	12.0	-0.1	-0.1
Footwear (except Rubber)	10.0	10.0	10.0	0.0	0.0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.0	1.2	+0.2	0.0
Total Nonmanufacturing	416.4	399.9	396.5	+16.5	+19.9
Construction and Mining	34.3	28.6	31.6	+5.7	+2.7
Building Construction	12.3	11.1	11.7	+1.2	+0.6
Special Trades Contractor	15.9	13.3	14.4	+2.6	+1.5
Transportation and Public Utilities	21.0	20.2	20.5	+0.8	+0.5
Wholesale Trade	24.9	24.5	23.7	+0.4	+1.2
Retail Trade	106.4	101.1	99.2	+5.3	+7.2
Food Stores	20.0	19.6	18.8	+0.4	+1.2
Eating and Drinking Places	34.8	29.1	31.1	+5.7	+3.7
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	25.4	25.0	24.8	+0.4	+0.6
Banking	9.1	8.8	8.6	+0.3	+0.5
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	10.0	10.1	10.0	-0.1	0.0
Services	113.2	108.9	107.1	+4.3	+6.1
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	8.8	6.0	8.6	+2.8	+0.2
Business Services	12.0	11.3	11.7	+0.7	+0.3
Health Services	42.5	42.3	40.3	+0.2	+2.2
Federal Government	18.5	18.4	18.3	+0.1	+0.2
State and Local Government	72.7	73.2	71.3	-0.5	+1.4
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0	+1.6

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